

**The Crossing announces the 2014-2015 Season**  
**incorporeal: not composed of matter; having no material existence**

*New works from David Lang, Kile Smith, Toivo Tulev, and Joel Puckett*

*Collaborations with Allora & Calzadilla, the Philadelphia Museum of Art,  
The Fabric Workshop and Museum, Longwood Gardens,  
and Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study*

**Philadelphia, PA – September 18, 2014:** After a whirlwind 2013-2014 season in which The Crossing crossed the continent, singing in five of this country's premiere concert venues and presenting ten premieres, The Crossing announces its 2014-2015 Season: 'incorporeal', a season of contemporary works for choir exploring the immaterial – the here, the now, and the after.

The season kicks off October 10 in Princeton at the invitation of The Institute for Advanced Study, with David Lang's *The Little Match Girl Passion* and a new work by Kile Smith commissioned to be programmed with Lang's popular and oft-repeated work. This concert will also be brought to Center City Philadelphia on October 12 in a new venue for The Crossing – The Church of the Holy Trinity in Rittenhouse Square – as well as to Chestnut Hill and Wilmington in January. December 12 brings the launch of two collaborations with internationally acclaimed artists Jennifer Allora & Guillermo Calzadilla – at The Fabric Workshop and Museum with a new work of David Lang, and at the Philadelphia Museum of Art with a reimagining of brief moments in Haydn's *The Creation*. Both promise to be groundbreaking and worthy of a journey to these great museums.

Our annual, sold-out The Crossing @ Christmas concert returns December 19 in the candlelit calmness of our home at The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill. This will be the inaugural concert of The Jeffrey Dinsmore Memorial Fund @ The Crossing. More details to follow about the fund, as we launch this most important legacy project.

INCORPOREAL  
THE 2014/2015 SEASON



We make our Longwood Gardens debut April 11 at their invitation, bringing back cellist Thomas Mesa for works of John Tavener and Santa Ratniece – otherworldly sounds of a profound and spiritual nature.

In April we culminate a yearlong educational project with The J.S. Jenks School in Chestnut Hill in a performance of another world premiere by Kile Smith on a commissioned text by Philadelphia poet Ryan Eckes.

And, then, our **seventh** annual Month of Moderns: three concerts in three weeks of our most recent discoveries in The Crossing's ongoing exploration of new works for choir.

In MoM 1, we present the world premiere of a new work of Joel Puckett, winner – with The Crossing – of the Dale Warland Singers Commission Award from Chorus America. The concert features acclaimed pianist and Lyric Fest co-founding Artistic Director Laura Ward in works of William Brooks and Matthew Brown.

MoM 2 features a long-anticipated world premiere of a work from Estonian composer Toivo Tulev, alongside a recent work of Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen and a reprise of our 2014 world premiere by James Primosch, *Mass for the Day of St. Thomas Didymus*.

MoM 3 brings back our 2009 widely applauded performance of Joby Talbot's *Path of Miracles*, with supertitles by LA graphic artist Brett Snodgrass.

All this, as we look ahead to the 2015-2016 season that will feature a collaboration with Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture in two world premieres and the culmination of three years of planning for SEVEN RESPONSES – our major project of seven commissions as responses to Dietrich Buxtehude's 17<sup>th</sup>-century masterwork, *Membra Jesu Nostri*, with the International Contemporary Ensemble (I.C.E.) and Robert Mealy's Quicksilver Baroque. Both projects are funded by the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage. In that season we will also reprise our 2013 performances of Thomas Lloyd's *Bonhoeffer* with performances in Philadelphia and New York City.

The Crossing continues to expand artistically and organizationally; with the help of foundation support and individual funders, we are meeting the challenges of success! We are happy to announce the appointment of Steven Gearhart (formerly Operations Manager) as Managing Director, overseeing all administrative aspects of The Crossing. Two additional staff positions have been added: Peter Christian joins us as Artistic Coordinator, and Kevin Krasinski joins us as Marketing Associate. Rounding out the team are: Mitchell Bloom, Grant Writer, Steven Garfinkel, Bookkeeper, and Amber McDaniel, Administrative Assistant.

## The Crossing

The Crossing is a professional chamber choir conducted by Donald Nally and dedicated to new music. Consistently recognized in critical reviews, The Crossing has been hailed as “ardently angelic” (Los Angeles Times, 4/14) and “something of a miracle” (The Philadelphia Inquirer, 7/14). Formed by a group of friends in 2005, the ensemble has since grown exponentially and “has made a name for itself in recent years as a champion of new music.” (The New York Times, 2/14). Highly sought-after for collaborative projects, The Crossing was the resident choir of the Spoleto Festival, Italy in 2007; appeared at Miller Theatre of Columbia University in the American premiere of James Dillon’s *Nine Rivers* with the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE); joined Bang on a Can’s first Philadelphia Marathon; and has appeared with the American Composers Orchestra, Network for New Music, Lyric Fest, Piffaro, red fish blue fish, Tempesta di Mare Baroque Chamber Orchestra, PRISM Saxophone Quartet, Toshimaru Nakamura, Dolce Suono, and in the summer of 2013, The Rolling Stones. The ensemble has sung in such venues as Walt Disney Concert Hall, The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; they made their Lincoln Center debut this past summer in a world premiere of John Luther Adams in a collaboration with the Mostly Mozart Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival, eighth blackbird, Jack Quartet, and TILT brass.

The Crossing frequently commissions works and has presented over forty world premieres. Upcoming projects include commissions with Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen, David T. Little, Joel Puckett, Santa Ratniece, Caroline Shaw, Kile Smith, Lewis Spratlan, Hans Thomalla, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, and Toivo Tulev. The ensemble recently released two recordings on the Innova label: *Christmas Daybreak*—with world premiere recordings of James MacMillan and Gabriel Jackson—and *I want to live*—with the complete choral works for women by David Lang. Recordings soon to be released include Lewis Spratlan’s *Hesperus is Phosphorus* and Gavin Bryars’ *The Fifth Century*, both commissioned by The Crossing and on the Innova label, as well as *Choral Music of Greg Brown* on the Navona label. The Crossing is the recipient of two ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming as well as the Dale Warland Singers Commission Award from Chorus America.

Concert descriptions, repertoire, and details, followed by ‘season at a glance’ below.  
For information, visit [www.crossingchoir.com](http://www.crossingchoir.com)  
Or contact Steven Gearhart at [steven@crossingchoir.com](mailto:steven@crossingchoir.com)

Come. Hear. Now.

## The 2014-2015 Season: Detailed Information

### *The Consolation of Apollo*

### *The Little Match Girl Passion*

Kile Smith: *The Consolation of Apollo* (world premiere)

David Lang: *The Little Match Girl Passion*

Friday, October 10, 2014 @ 8pm  
Saturday, October 11, 2014 @ 8pm  
Institute for Advanced Study  
1 Einstein Dr, Princeton, NJ 08540  
Visit [www.ias.edu](http://www.ias.edu) for tickets

Sunday, October 12, 2014 @ 5pm  
The Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square  
1904 Walnut St, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Saturday, January 3, 2015 @ 8pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill  
8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Sunday, January 4, 2015 @ 4pm  
Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
2313 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803

David Lang's minimalist passion, winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize, has become a Crossing signature work – immediate, stark, beautiful, it contemplates the value of recognizing the suffering of others. Lang's work is so iconic, we commissioned a companion piece from Kile Smith whose libretto offers an unlikely, brilliant pairing: Boethius' sixth-century musings on man and beast, and transcripts of the historic Christmas Eve 1968 broadcast of Apollo 8 astronauts reading Genesis. Smith considers in music what we are and what we can be, how the earthbound free their imagination in flight.

*with generous support from Eric Owens, the Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia, the Chestnut Hill Community Fund, and the Edward T. Cone Concert Series at Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study*

### *In the midst of things*

### **The Crossing @ The Philadelphia Museum of Art: Allora & Calzadilla**

Opening night Friday, December 12 @ 8pm  
Skylit Atrium, Perelman Building  
The Philadelphia Museum of Art  
2525 Pennsylvania Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19130  
additional performances Saturday, December 13; Saturday, January 24;  
Saturday, February 21; and Saturday, March 25  
Visit [www.philamuseum.org](http://www.philamuseum.org) for performance times

Internationally acclaimed trans-discipline artists Jennifer Allora & Guillermo Calzadilla create a fifteen-minute unaccompanied reimagining of moments from Franz Joseph Haydn's *The Creation* (1798), exploring direction, time, and origins. Twelve singers consider the spatial and temporal, moving about the long hall and brilliant acoustic of the Skylit Atrium at the museum's Perelman Building; they reconstruct and construct phrases of Haydn's original music, *in medias res* – finding histories that begin in the middle and look back, or move forward, or fracture and then gather. Vibrant, immediate art that the audience member experiences from within.

*A collaboration with the Philadelphia Museum of Art*

***Lifespan***

**The Crossing @ The Fabric Workshop & Museum: Allora & Calzadilla  
a David Lang world premiere**

Opening night Friday, December 12 5-7pm  
The Fabric Workshop and Museum  
1214 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19107  
with over 300 performances running through April 4

Visit [www.fabricworkshopandmuseum.org](http://www.fabricworkshopandmuseum.org) for performance times

Allora & Calzadilla continue their exploration of relationships – of earth and time and of ages – with a new score of David Lang. We consider an era when there was no life on the planet; a 4.5 billion-year-old rock is suspended from the ceiling of the Fabric Workshop. The profound distance from that time is experienced through the wind of three singers, whose lifespans are immeasurably brief set against that of the rock; they move this relic with their breath – the exhalation of the lungs which sustain our lives – in a poetic form of the wind erosion that has shaped the earth over unimaginable time spans. Gravity – that which holds together the celestial bodies and our own – and time are viewed by the observer freely moving about the space.

*A collaboration with the Fabric Workshop and Museum*

***The Crossing @ Christmas***

**Inaugural Concert of The Jeffrey Dinsmore Memorial Fund @ The Crossing**

Friday, December 19, 2014 @ 8pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill  
8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Joanna Metcalf: *Il nome del bel fiore*

Toivo Tulev: *And then in silence there with me be only you*

Will Todd: *Softly*

Judith Weir: *Drop down, ye heavens*

Rihards Dubra: *Duo seraphim*

Howard Helvey: *O lux beatissimi*

Our annual Christmas concert, sold-out for the last two years, features Joanna Metcalf's florid invocations to the Mystic Rose of Dante's *Paradiso* – a work of substantial proportions yet intimate textures. The contemplative atmosphere continues with the extraordinary textures of Toivo Tulev and the lush harmonies of Will Todd, Rihards Dubra, and Howard Helvey, as we take a break from the winter bustle and take in The Crossing's now-classic candlelit holiday respite.

***Winter Light***  
**The Crossing @ Longwood Gardens**

*with Thomas Mesa, cello*  
Saturday, April 11, 2015 @ 7:30pm  
Longwood Gardens  
1011 Longwood Rd, Kennett Square, PA 19348

Santa Ratniece: *Fuoco celeste*  
John Tavener: *Svyati*  
Edwin Fissinger: *Lux aeterna*  
Eriks Esenvalds: *Stars*  
Esenvalds: *Northern Lights*  
Ko Matsushita: *O lux beata Trinitas*

The legendary beauty of Longwood is mirrored in the swirling sounds and provocative textures of works for cello and choir by John Tavener and Santa Ratniece; the concert focuses on light - of this world and beyond - in additional works of Ko Matshushita, Edwin Fissinger, and Eriks Esenvalds, whose stunning timbres mixing tuned water glasses with voices bring a new dimension to musical depictions of light.

***The Crossing @ The J.S. Jenks School***  
**a Kile Smith world premiere**

Saturday, April 18, 2015 @ 2pm  
The J.S. Jenks School  
8301 Germantown Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19118

Kile Smith/Ryan Eckes: *May Day*

The culmination of our yearlong collaboration with The J.S. Jenks School offers The Crossing and Jenks students together in a new work composed for the occasion by Kile Smith on a poem by Ryan Eckes; both artists have worked extensively with the students, sharing the process and developing the talents of our next generation. Members of The Crossing have served as mentors in the rehearsal process, and the concert brings us all together for a joyful new discovery.

*with substantial support from The Presser Foundation, The Friends of Jenks, and The Chestnut Hill Community Fund*

***MoM I: Only memory of forgetting***  
**a Joel Puckett world premiere**  
*with Laura Ward, piano*

Sunday, June 14, 2015 @ 4pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill  
8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Joel Puckett: *I enter the earth*  
William Brooks: *in memoriam reducere studemus*  
Matthew Brown: *Another Lullaby for Insomniacs*

An extraordinary colorist, Joel is setting words of a !Kung shaman describing the dance trance of a healing ritual in which song gives power. In William Brooks' setting of Pierre Joris' poem about the death of Anton Webern, *in memoriam reducere studemus*, we again ponder life - the here and after - while Matthew Brown's setting of the wistful *Another Lullaby for Insomniacs* is very much about the here and now: loss and longing pervade.

*supported by Chorus America's Dale Warland Singers Commission Award - awarded to The Crossing and Joel Puckett in 2013*

***MoM II: Out of hopeful green stuff woven***  
**a Toivo Tulev world premiere**

Sunday, June 21, 2015 @ 4pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill  
8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Toivo Tulev: *What is the grass?* (world premiere)  
James Primosch: *Mass for the Day of St. Thomas Didymus*  
Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen: *Three Stages*

The waiting is over: finally our own new work from Estonian composer Toivo Tulev. His libretto is an exploration of wonder, beginning with Walt Whitman's *A child says, What is the grass? fetching it to me with full hands*. We reprise a chamber version of James Primosch's sensational *Mass for the Day of St. Thomas Didymus* from MoM 2014, and sing Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen's raucous and fantastic *Three Stages*, as we look forward to a new work he is composing for The Crossing's MoM 2016.

***MoM III: We beat our hands against the walls of heaven***

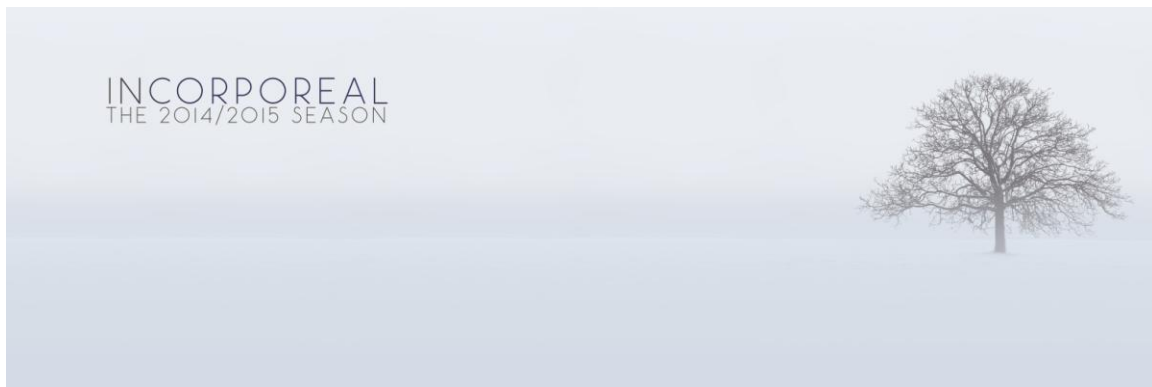
**Joby Talbot: *Path of Miracles***

*with supertitle projections by Brett Snodgrass*

Saturday, June 27, 2015 @ 8pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill  
8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Joby Talbot: *Path of Miracles*

Our 2009 performances of Joby's *Path of Miracles* were among the first 'events' at The Crossing; the power and beauty of his hour-long account of the pilgrimage across northern Spain to the cathedral of *Santiago de Compostela* have made this work a modern classic. In seven languages and a variety of musical styles, the work is an emotional journey inward as we navigate our own pilgrimages.



**The 2014-2015 season at a glance**

***The Consolation of Apollo (world premiere) - Kile Smith***

***The Little Match Girl Passion - David Lang***

*Autumn*

Friday, October 10, 2014 @ 8pm and Saturday, October 11, 2014 @ 8pm  
Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

Sunday, October 12, 2014 @ 5pm

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square

*Winter*

Saturday, January 3, 2015 @ 8pm

The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia

Sunday, January 4, 2015 @ 4pm

Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Wilmington



***In the midst of things***

**The Crossing @ The Philadelphia Museum of Art: Allora & Calzadilla**

Opening night Friday, December 12 @ 8pm  
Skylit Atrium, Perelman Building, The Philadelphia Museum of Art

Additional performances:

Saturday, December 13; Saturday, January 24;

Saturday, February 21; and Saturday, March 25

See [www.philamuseum.org](http://www.philamuseum.org) for performance times

***Lifespan***

**The Crossing @ The Fabric Workshop and Museum:**

**Allora & Calzadilla**

**a David Lang world premiere**

Opening night Friday, December 12 5-7pm  
with over 300 performances through April 4

The Fabric Workshop and Museum

See [www.fabricworkshopandmuseum.org](http://www.fabricworkshopandmuseum.org) for performance times

***The Crossing @ Christmas***

**Inaugural Concert of The Jeffrey Dinsmore Memorial Fund @ The Crossing**

Friday, December 19, 2014 @ 8pm

The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia

***Winter Light***

**The Crossing @ Longwood Gardens**

with Thomas Mesa, cello

Saturday, April 11, 2015 @ 7:30pm

Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA

***The Crossing @ The J.S. Jenks School***

**Kile Smith/Ryan Eckes: May Day**

Saturday, April 18, 2015 @ 2pm

The J.S. Jenks School, Chestnut Hill

**7th Annual Month of Moderns Festival**

***MoM I: Only memory of forgetting***

**Joel Puckett world premiere: *I enter the earth***

with Laura Ward, piano

Sunday, June 14, 2015 @ 4pm

The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill



**Contact: The Crossing**  
**Steven Gearhart**  
(267) 627-4306  
steven@crossingchoir.com

***MoM II: Out of hopeful green stuff woven***  
**Toivo Tulev world premiere: *What is the grass?***

Sunday, June 21, 2015 @ 4pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill

***MoM III: We beat our hands against the walls of heaven***  
**Joby Talbot's *Path of Miracles***

*with subtitle projections by Brett Snodgrass*

Saturday, June 27, 2015 @ 8pm  
The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill